

U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Western District of New York*

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PROJECT EXILE PRESS RELEASE

April 29, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. BILLY B. SANDERS

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that today, Billy B. Sanders, (DOB: 12/29/82) of 269 Selye Terrace, Rochester, New York, was sentenced before Honorable Michael Telesca, United States District Court Judge, to 111 months incarceration for violations of federal law. On February 19, 2004, Billy B. Sanders pled guilty to two counts of indictment 03-CR-6083. The first count charged him with carrying and brandishing a firearm in the furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c), which carried a mandatory minimum sentence of a term of imprisonment of at least five (7) years and up to life; and the second count charged him with possession with intent to distribute cocaine base, a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), which carried a maximum possible sentence of a term of imprisonment of twenty years.

On February 19, 2004, Billy B. Sanders also plead guilty to one count of indictment 03-CR-6114, charging him with failure to appear on the above indictment, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3146(a)(1), and carrying a maximum possible sentence of a term of imprisonment of up to ten years, said sentence to be served consecutive to any other sentence imposed.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Julia N. Romanow, stated that on April 2, 2003, in the vicinity of 119 Ravine Avenue in the City of Rochester, Billy B. Sanders was carrying and brandishing a firearm, namely, one 22 Long Rifle Caliber, Chinese TT-Olympia Pistol model semi-automatic pistol, while at the same time possessing an amount of cocaine base which was intended and packaged for sale. On June 2, 2003, the defendant, Billy B. Sanders failed to appear before Magistrate Judge Marian W. Payson as ordered and violated other conditions of his release.

The Indictments and guilty pleas were the culmination of a Project Exile investigation on the part of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Michael Lawandus and the United States Marshals Service, under the direction of U.S. Marshal Peter A. Lawrence.

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Project Exile is a special initiative announced in the City of Rochester on September 29, 1998 to end the culture of violence in the Rochester community. Under Project Exile, cases involving illegal firearms are prosecuted in Federal Court to take advantage of the stiffer penalties under the Federal gun laws.

